

### REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, the following claims will be pending: 4, 5, 8, 10, 12-14, 16-23, 27-29. In this Response, the following claims are amended: 4, 8, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 27, 28, 29. Consideration of the claims as presented herein is earnestly solicited.

#### **The Specification**

The Applicant submits replacement paragraphs to accommodate the Examiner's objections thereto.

#### **Allowed Claims**

The Applicant notes, with appreciation, that the Examiner has indicated that claims 12, 13, 17, and 18 are allowed. The Applicant has amended these claims simply to add a punctuation mark.

#### **Objections and 112 Rejections**

The Examiner indicated that claims 14, 16 and 19, 23 and 29 were objected to because of specified informalities. These claims have been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 4, 5, 8, 10, 16 and 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. Amendment is made herein to address these rejections.

#### **102 Rejections**

Claims 27-29 were rejected as being anticipated by Ritchart, U.S. Pat. No. 5,810,806. The Applicant respectfully submits that each of these claims recite an arrangement not shown or described by Ritchart. For example, claim 27 recites that "the cutting element is adapted to be extended from or pivoted out of the hollow body transversely with respect to the longitudinal axis of the hollow body" (emphasis added). Ritchart does not show or suggest a transverse extension or pivoting capability. Instead, Ritchart simply shows a longitudinal extension of its cutting element. Claims 28 and 29 depend from claim 27 and therefore are patentably distinct over Ritchart for

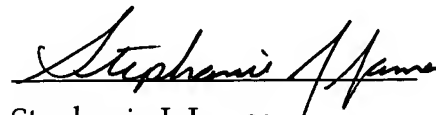
the same reason. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the art rejection with regard to claims 27-29.

### CONCLUSION

All of the claims remaining in this application should now be seen to be in condition for allowance. The prompt issuance of a notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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